1: Bowen-Jones et al. K-5 (1955-1958) 1961
EZ6 Malta EZ6

ESSENTIAL STATISTICS

131 The Maltese Islands - Land Area 121,850 sq. miles, Population 323,6671.
161 Malta - Land Area 94,876 sq. miles, Population 296,0931.
Gozo and Comino - Land Area 26,974 sq. miles, Population 27,6591.

162 A. OCCUPATIONAL STRUCTURE OF THE POPULATION2

(i)	Civil Government	17,050
463	Service Departments	22,480
(ii)	Agriculture, Fishing and Quarrying	9,130
	Manufacturing	9,030
	Construction	7,220
(iii)	Wholesale and Retail Trades	10,920
	Transport and Communications	3,850
	Insurance, Banking, etc.	550
	Gas Service	90
(iv)	Recreation and Personal Services	7,250
	Community and Business Services	1,140
	Total	88,710

433 B. PRODUCTION1

Gross Domestic Product 1957	£m.	36.1
Gross Industrial Production 1957	"	10.036
Gross Agricultural Product 1957	"	5.008

439 C. TRADE3

(i) Commodities (value in £m)

	Imports	Exports	Re-exports
Food, Drink, Tobacco	9.411	.547	.549
Raw materials and materials mainly unmanufactured	3.227	.312	1.307
Articles wholly or mainly manufactured	13.215	.132	.404
Miscellaneous and unspecified	2.862	.005	.339
Bullion and Specie	.104	-	-
	28.820	.095	2.600

(ii) Direction of Trade (%)

	Imports	Exports
Sterling Area	49.3	41.1
Dollar Area	7.2	.8
O. E. E. C.	33.5	10.4
Other	10.0	2.1
Ships and Aircraft Stores	-	45.6
	100	100

(iii) Balance of Trade

	Imports	Exports & Re-exports	Negative Balance
		Million £	
1949	15.312	1.038	14.274
1954	20.407	2.879	17.528
1958	28.820	3.595	25.225

(Since 1948 the adverse trade balance has increased by an average of 4.7% per annum)

1: Bowen-Jones et al. K-5 (1955-1958) 1961
EZ6 Malta EZ6

Chapter 1

A. GEOLOGY AND STRUCTURE OF THE MALTESE ISLANDS

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INTRODUCTION

The central Mediterranean islands of Malta, Gozo and Comino lie 58 miles due south of Sicily, 220 miles due north of Tripoli and about 180 miles east of Tunis. The Maltese archipelago trends north-west to south-east and is 28 miles in length. Malta, the largest and most southerly island, is 17 miles in length and nine miles wide and has an area of 95 square miles. Gozo is nine miles long, up to four miles wide, and has an area of 26 square miles. The island of Comino, in the Comino Strait separating the two islands, occupies only one square mile. A submarine ridge, averaging 50 fathoms in depth, extends southwards from the Ragusa peninsula of Sicily towards the islands, and it continues on as a broader and deeper shelf to the African coasts of Tunisia and Tripolitania. This submarine ridge, which separates the Mediterranean into two main hydrographic basins, represents a sunken land bridge which connected Africa and Europe during parts of the Pleistocene and later Tertiary.

The islands are entirely composed of Tertiary limestones with subsidiary clays and marls. Superficial deposits, mostly Pleistocene in age, take the form of cliff breccias, cave and valley loams, sands and gravels. The succession of Tertiary rocks on the islands is as follows:-

		Feet
5. Upper Coralline Limestone	at least	530
4. Greensand		0-50
3. Blue Clay		0-230
2. Globigerina Limestone		75-680
1. Lower Coralline Limestone	at least	626

The Lower Coralline Limestone and Lower Globigerina Limestone belong to the Aquitanian stage and the Middle and Upper Globigerina Limestone and Blue Clay to the Burdigalian. The Helvetian is represented by the Greensand and the Tortonian by the Upper Coralline Limestone. All these stages fall within the Miocene period, following Eames' recommendation that the Aquitanian is Miocene rather than Oligocene.

The strata have an undulating regional dip to the south-east and the islands are cut by a system of normal faults, striking ENE., which affects Malta especially and is responsible for cutting that island into a series of horst and rift blocks.

The first description of the geology of these islands was given by Commander T. A. Spratt (1843 and 1852) and later a general account was given by Murray (1890) and his work stimulated others, especially Cooke (1893, 1893a, 1896, 1896a), to examine the rocks in more detail. During this century Rizzo (1932), Paver (1943), Sir E. B. Bailey (1943) and Morris (1952) have added detail mainly in connection with an examination of the water resources of the islands. Recently the literature has been reviewed and summarised by Reed (1949) and Ilyde (1955). The fossils have been studied especially by Gregory (1891), Stefanini (1908), Roman and Roger (1939) and Eames and Cox (1956). The interesting fauna of the Pleistocene cave deposits have been described by Cooke (1891, 1896b), Cooke and Smith Woodward (1893) and Bate (1935), and Evans (1954, 1959) has described the prehistoric pottery sequence.

Note: Throughout this chapter, four-figure grid references have been used to locate the south-western corner of the kilometre grid square containing the feature named. The grid in use is that appearing on the standard two-inch map of Malta and Gozo, G.S.G.S. 3859, Edition 4, 1954, and reproduced on Fig. 3 et seq. The Roman numerals refer to regions marked on the inset map of Fig. 3.

2: Boissevain E-5 (1960-1961) 1965
EZ6 Malta EZ6

CHAPTER I

The Background

Malta and her sister islands, Gozo and Comino, lie midway between Gibraltar and Lebanon, at almost the exact geographical centre of the Mediterranean. Sicily lies just 58 miles to the north, Tripoli 220 miles due south and Tunis slightly over 200 miles to the west. The Maltese archipelago thus forms a port of call between Europe and North Africa, between the Christian and the Moslem worlds. The Maltese have been in contact with both for centuries, and the cultures of both have contributed many traits which the islanders have adapted to their own use.

Malta, the largest and southernmost island, is seventeen miles long and nine miles wide, and covers an area of 95 square miles. Gozo is only nine miles by five miles, with an area of 26 square miles. Finally, the little island of Comino, which lies in the three-mile-wide channel separating the two larger islands, has an area of one square mile.

The islands are composed entirely of tertiary limestone, and the soil consists of clays and marls. Although the land rises to a maximum of little more than 800 feet near Dingli, the terrain is varied, and often broken, with jagged escarpments falling into narrow valleys, which run out to level fields. A visitor to the islands, especially during the long dry summer, is struck at once by the absence of vegetation and the rocky aspect of the countryside. This is, in part, a false impression, for although there are few trees, rubble retaining and boundary walls hide the network of small cultivated fields. Occasionally, the dark green foliage of a carob or olive tree reaches over these stone enclosures to add a sudden splash of colour to the shimmering white-yellow of the summer landscape.

The soft yellow limestone gives a continuity to the scenery. Houses, villages and whole towns seem to grow up out of the rocky matrix from which they are built, and from which they are distinguished only by the regular outline of the buildings against

[text continues on p. 3]

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103
491
487
● 131
311

2: Boissevain E-5 (1960-1961) 1965
EZ6 Malta EZ6

[P.2]

MALTA AND GOZO

2: Boissevain E-5 (1960-1961) 1965
EZ6 Malta EZ6

the glaring skies. This stone, so characteristic of Malta, provides a gradual transition from the open country to the compact, densely populated communities in which the people live.

II

In 1960, just under 329,000 people lived on the islands' 122 square miles. This makes the Maltese archipelago, with a population density of 2,700 per square mile, one of the most thickly populated countries in the world. Slightly over half the population live in the urban area which centres on Valletta and the Grand Harbour. The rest, and the part with which this study is concerned, live in clearly separated villages and towns outside the conurbation. The population of Gozo is 28,000, and that of Comino 30.

The pressure of a numerous and fertile population on a very limited area has long been one of Malta's most serious problems. The Maltese marry rather early and, in the past, have been encouraged by the clergy and public opinion to have large families. But the Church in Malta has finally and officially recognized the problem, and recently opened a medical advisory service for married couples. During the period 1957–60, births averaged 8,600 per annum and deaths 2,820, thus the natural annual increase was about 5,780. As the net emigration during this period was 2,170 annually, the total population increased at an annual rate of approximately 3,610. Emigration, however, has taken off many of the young men and left a surplus of females. In 1960 there were 747 men between the ages of 20 and 34 for every 1,000 women in the same age group.[1]

III

Malta's documented history stretches back over a thousand years. The summary of it given here makes no pretence of originality. With but few exceptions, it is based upon the well-known published sources listed in the Bibliography. My sole object is to enable the reader to see the present political system in its historical perspective.

Throughout history, Malta has been subject to many different

[1] *Statistical Abstract of the Maltese Islands, 1960* (Valletta, Central Office of Statistics, 1961). C, pp. 2–3.

3: Buxton D-5 (1920-1921) 1922 EZ6 Malta EZ6

In Oxford, Professor Arthur Thomson has set the resources of his Department, including a calculating machine, at my disposal, and has helped me continually with advice and kindly criticism. My former teachers—Sir Arthur Evans, Mr. Henry Balfour, Mr. E. T. Leeds, and Professor J. L. Myres—have accorded me in many conversations the combined privileges of a colleague and a pupil. I fear that I have, albeit unwittingly, often pirated their ideas. My colleague, Miss Blackwood, has devoted the greater part of a Long Vacation to helping to finish and prepare this paper for the press before my leaving England, and has performed the laborious task of looking over proofs in my absence.

II.—Geography.

The Maltese archipelago consists of the islands of Malta, Gozo, Comino, Cominetto and Filfola. The two latter are uninhabited, and Comino is practically untenanted. We are therefore only concerned with the islands of Malta and Gozo.

Malta lies about 60 miles south of Sicily and 180 miles north of the African coast. Its maximum length is 18½ miles, its maximum breadth 8¼ miles, and its area 95 square miles. Gozo is considerably smaller, and has an area of about 20 square miles.

Geologically, the islands are Late Eocene (3). The eastern and most thickly inhabited part of Malta consists of globigerina limestone, which overlies lower coralline limestone; in the western part these beds are covered with beds of greensand and blue clay or marl, over which lies the upper coralline limestone. The rock is everywhere extremely friable, and is perpetually disintegrating under the influence of wind and rain. Except in one or two places the soil is seldom more than a few inches deep.

The surrounding seas are warm and shallow; a rise of 50 fathoms would connect Malta and Sicily, and a rise of 200 fathoms would join North Africa and Europe and include Malta as a craggy bastion. The shallowest sea, however, lies more to the west. Malta should, therefore, be more correctly described as an outlying pier of an old land bridge rather than part of the land bridge itself. It seems probable that slow, tectonic movements are actually in progress to-day, and that the archipelago is sinking; but it is extremely unlikely that any men of whom we possess traces at present, with the doubtful exception of a few fragments from the Weid Dalam, came to Malta when it was still part of the mainland.

The island is tilted from south to north. The cliffs along the southern coast are high and precipitous, and some of the loftiest parts of the island are close to the shore.

The undercliff here forms a pleasant contrast to the less fertile parts of Malta. Carib trees are not uncommon, potatoes are cultivated on terraces, and the tiny fields are irrigated, as elsewhere in Malta, by little runlets conducted along channels

4: Cassar P-4, 5 (no date) 1964 EZ6 Malta EZ6

Medical Votive Offerings in the Maltese Islands

PAUL CASSAR

THE MALTESE GROUP OF ISLANDS—Malta, Gozo, Kemmuna, Kemmunet and Filfla—cover an area of just over 120 square miles. They form a stepping-stone between Europe and Africa, being fifty-eight miles distant from Sicily and 180 miles away from the North African shore. Malta and Gozo are renowned for the number of Stone Age temples they contain. Archaeologists have expressed the opinion that some of the enclosures of these temples were sacred to a healing deity (Zammit 1926, p. 53). This is suggested by the discovery of clay and limestone objects consisting of (1) two models of women lying asleep on a kind of stretcher of wicker work, and (2) several votive offerings in the shape of parts of the human body (Zammit & Singer 1924, pp. 75–6).

It is believed that the sleeping ladies represent devotees who went to the Hypogeum temple at Hal Saflieni, near Pawla, to consult the oracle through the practice of oneiromancy. This was a form of dream interpretation after the patient had been aroused from a hypnotic state induced deliberately by means of drugs or other means (Zammit 1935, p. 58). In ancient Egypt dreams were regarded with reverence and the faithful believed that their prayers were rewarded by the gods with an indication, in their dreams, of the remedies which their illness required (Wilkinson 1837, III, p. 394). Similar practices prevailed also in the temple-hospitals of classical Greece where the patient is said to have had the line of treatment revealed to him in his sleep (Pavey 1951, p. 59). It is, therefore, quite possible that such methods were likewise followed in Malta by the Hypogeum priests in the treatment of disease about 1500 B.C. Whatever might have happened in Malta in neolithic days, it is very striking to come across similar parallels in modern times where sick persons claim to have been healed by a heavenly power while in the sleeping state.

The following cases were recorded in 1890, the first being the most interesting as the patient fell asleep in the church itself:

(i) A woman had been subject to a purulent inflammation of the mouth for fifteen years. She had recourse to the Virgin Mary and while praying at Ta Pinu church (Gharb, Gozo) she was overtaken by extreme somnolence. She woke up with the conviction that the Madonna had granted her the desired favour; in fact, she recovered completely from her illness within three days.

(ii) Maria Cachia, from a village in Gozo, was so gravely ill from puerperal fever that it was decided to give her the Last Sacraments. Her mother made a vow to the Virgin Mary and annointed the patient on the forehead and breasts with oil obtained from the sanctuary lamp of Ta Pinu church. Maria fell into a calm sleep. Our Lady appeared to her in a vision, touched her on the parts smeared with the oil and healed her. On waking she was 'happy and smiling and left her bed completely cured'.

APPENDIX I B : Agriculture (S/164-1957)

131 (i) AREAS

AREA of the Maltese Islands..... 278,429 tmien (77,400 ac)
Area of Malta..... 217,143 tmien (60,800 ac)
Area of Gozo..... 59,286 tmien (16,600 ac)

423 CULTIVABLE AREA of the Maltese Islands 156,211 tmien (12,484 hldngs)
Holdings of dry (baghli) land.... 118,460 tmien (10,517 ")
Holdings of irrigable (saqwi)land 700 tmien (88 holdings)
Holdings of both dry & irrigable. 39,051 tmien (1,879 ")

241 (ii) ACREAGE and PRODUCTION of CROPS. 1956-57

433
435

CROP	ACREAGE	VALUE(£)	YIELD(Tons)	YIELD per Acre (tons)
Wheat	5,192	98,908	2,916	0.6
Barley & Meslin	4,836	68,339	2,738	0.6
Vetches	1,727	51,993	1,354	0.8
Forages	11,000	381,150(a)	32,000(a)	2.3
Broad Beans	1,000	15,233	356	3.5
Cumin Seed	14	180	3	0.2
Cotton	35	800	8	0.2
Locust Beans	500	20,000	1,500	3.0
Total	24,304	816,603	40,875	
Potatoes (spring)	6,000	350,000	21,000	3.5
Potatoes (autumn)	3,057	193,394	9,157	3.0
Melons	2,721	32,908	1,714	0.6
Onions	788	47,970	3,000	3.8
Tomatoes	3,000	148,000	12,000	4.0
Other vegetables	3,897	344,744	18,436	5.0
Total	19,259	1,115,016	65,307	
Grapes	5,204	171,102	5,347	1.0
Citrus	160	32,000	510	3.0
Other Fruit	1,000	105,000	4,000	2.0
Total	6,364	308,102	9,847	
Flowers & Seeds	250	100,000	..	
TOTAL	ac.50,177	£2,139,721	116,029 Tons	

(a) Including Straw.

231 (iii) CLASSIFICATION OF LIVESTOCK. 1957 (September)

	Malta 1957)	Gozo (1957)	TOTAL(1957)	TOTAL(1949)
Horses.....	1,688	369	2,057	2,753
Donkeys.....	1,732	1,107	2,839	3,335
Mules.....	1,535	349	1,884	2,341
Goats.....	21,630	10,428	32,058	
Billy Goats.....	417	177	594	80,877
Kids under 1 year...	3,584	3,121	6,885	
Sheep.....	8,091	4,241	12,332	
Rams.....	98	43	141	21,257
Lambs under 1 year..	1,015	1,330	2,345	
Bulls.....	377	294	671	
Heifers Pregnant....	339	195	534	
Heifers other.....	731	363	1,091	
Milch Cows.....	2,535	963	3,492	3,833
Stud Bulls.....	111	26	137	
Maltese Draught-Cows	109	6	115	
Imported Store Bulls	2,860	824	3,684	
Breeding Sows.....	2,793	588	3,381	
Boars.....	214	87	301	29,018
Sucking Pigs.....	935	367	1,302	
Other Fatteners.....	6,581	1,733	8,314	
Hens.....	192,883	120,630	313,513	
Other Poultry.....	5,145	1,364	6,509	
Rabbits.....	43,848	18,048	59,893	

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632
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APPENDIX 3 : THE BUILT-UP AREA

"A Township is the definite urban-type built-up nucleus of a census locality" (v. B/188, p.38). On this basis the 'township' area and population within each census locality may be distinguished:

CENSUS LOCALITIES	LOCALITIES: LAND AREA, sq. miles A	LOCALITIES: POPULATION. B	"TOWNSHIPS": LAND AREA, as % of A.	"TOWNSHIPS": POPULATION, as % of B.
Valletta	0.281	18,202	100	100
Cospicua	0.241	9,085	100	100
Senglea	0.057	5,085	100	100
Vittoriosa	0.205	4,242	100	100
Gżira	0.411	8,545	38.9	99.3
Sliema	0.485	23,399	100	100
Floriana	0.341	5,811	100	100
Pawla	1.088	11,424	24.6	100
Marsa	0.883	10,672	39.6	100
Hamrun	0.380	16,895	73.1	100
Msida	0.368	6,587	53.3	98.9
Kalkara	0.471	2,101	28.9	92.9
Pieta	0.200	4,078	78.5	100
St. Julians	1.635	8,295	17.9	70.8
Balzan	0.236	2,734	68.8	100
Luqa	1.812	5,382	5.6	91.2
Birkirkara	2.738	16,987	15.2	90.5
Tarxien	0.850	7,708	12.5	56.2
St. Venera	0.415	5,246	34.9	75.1
Qormi	2.412	14,869	9.9	95.6
Birżebbuġa	2.994	5,297	4.7	88.1
Żabbar & M'skola	3.255	11,893	9.5	61.3
Żejtun	3.777	11,[illegible]	5.9	87.2
Lija	0.547	2,119	24.1	96.3
Mqabba	1.242	2,088	5	97.5
Karsaxlokk	1.952	1,469	1.9	92.9
Żurrieq	3.536	6,837	4.3	92.8
Ghaxaq	1.121	2,630	6.8	96.5
Attard	2.090	2,663	7.2	97.2
Victoria	1.635	6,357	19.6	97
Mdina	2.473	823	1.1	100
Nesta	1.900	7,377	14	97.9
Żebbuġ	3.167	7,969	10.2	99.7
Ghajnsielem	1.414	1,830	6.9	98
Gudja	1.709	1,712	2.6	97.4
Qrendi	2.587	2,155	2.2	97.7
Kirkop	0.717	1,204	6.3	100
Naxxar	6.538	4,668	2.7	83
Rabat	8.048	12,792	2.9	82
Xewkija	1.296	3,281	12.9	99.9
Charghur	2.023	1,813	2	87.3
Mellieha	7.908	4,290	0.2	71.9
Siġġiewi	6.230	5,065	2.4	96.4
Sannat & Munxar	2.167	1,658	4.9	99.6
Nadur	2.487	4,136	7.8	98.7
Safi	0.447	709	10.1	97.7
Dingli	3.674	2,041	1.7	68.5
Qala	2.218	1,816	3.6	95.8
St. Paul's Bay	5.620	3,040	2.1	72.5
Kerċem & St.Lucia	2.442	1,272	4	100
Xaghra	4.654	4,656	5.6	87.9
Charb	2.043	1,269	2.2	67.3
San Lawrenz	1.355	428	3.4	69.2
Żebbuġ	2.775	1,190	4.4	95.1
Mġarr	5.986	2,167	0.6	31.2
Ghasri	1.433	471	3	41.2
Comino	1.075	30	0	0
Maltese Islands	121.850	319,820	7.6	91.1
Malta	98.878	292,019	8	90.9
Gozo	26.974	27,801	5.9	93.6

NB: - Information from B/188. Table P IIIb).

9: Luke G-5 (ca. 1920-ca. 1960) 1960
EZ6 Malta EZ6

man Malta is essentially European, a projection of Europe into the south. Its vegetation is of the Mediterranean type, similar to that of Southern Spain, the Riviera, Sicily and the islands of the Ægean although, strangely enough, it lacks among its wild flowers the cyclamen which so delightfully and characteristically, in springtime, carpets the ground in Cyprus and the Isles of Greece. Here and there, it is true, there rises above its pines and cypresses and carob-trees an occasional stately date-palm, suggesting a garden-escape from the groves of Tunis. And Tunis, whence come the best dates in the world, lies, be it noted, to the north of Malta. But the fruit on the date-palms of Malta practically never ripens. Malta is too European for that.

2

If anything shaped as differently from a circle as the Mediterranean can be said to have a centre, that centre is Malta. The Maltese archipelago is equidistant from the Mediterranean's western and eastern extremities; it is its half-way house between Occident and Orient, historically no less than geographically; it has been its nerve-centre—and more than its nerve-centre, its magnet—from the "time whereof the memory of man runneth not to the contrary." All the people of the Middle Sea have possessed, influenced or coveted Malta at one time or another, the first to do so of whom we have definite knowledge being a small seafaring, trading and colonizing tribe from its easternmost shores. "The twin islands of Melita and Gaulos," wrote Professor Freeman, "lay immediately in the way of Phœnician adventurers" and became, and remained for centuries, a Phœnician settlement. It was the all-absorbing power of Rome that first brought them into the European fold.

As the nerve-centre, as the magnet, of the Mediterranean Malta was all but snatched back from the European fold when the Ottoman Sultan Suleiman the Magnificent sought

9: Luke G-5 (ca. 1920-ca. 1960) 1960
EZ6 Malta EZ6
Gozo

sometimes regarded in England—in other words, as hard-headed folk whom nothing will keep out of the best jobs. It is certainly true to say that, loth as they may be to leave their own little island, when they do it is definitely to better themselves. They make excellent colonists in Australia and elsewhere in the New World, while those who emigrate no farther than Malta frequently attain distinction. The story is told of a function in S. John's Co-Cathedral in Valetta at a time, not so many years ago, when the Gozitans who were leading personages in Church and State included the Archbishop of Malta, Mgr Pace.

"Well," said a Maltese worshipper, after watching the entry into the church of the procession of Archbishop and Canons and other dignitaries, mostly (or so it seemed to him) natives of the junior island, "I suppose we ought to be thankful that the sacristan is still a Maltese."

Byron may have had something similar in mind when he bracketed Malta with Gozo as

> Calypso's isles,
> The sister tenants of the middle deep,

instead of describing them as mother and daughter.

There is much to see in this small island of 27 square miles and as many thousand inhabitants besides natural scenery and the monuments alluded to above. Let me instance some characteristic features of various widely different epochs of Gozo's long history. First must come the twin Stone Age temples of Ggantija, through their cyclopean construction—one block has the formidable dimensions of 12½ by 17½ feet—the most stupendous work of Neolithic man in the Maltese archipelago. Farther excavation by the Malta Museum is planned on and around their site when funds permit, and more wonders may yet come to light. Meanwhile the visitor may enjoy from one of the most impressive architectural survivals of remote antiquity a comprehensive view of Gozo and of the north-western end of Malta, with